

PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Wham et al.

Examiner: Not Assigned

Serial No.:

10/626,390

Group: Art Unit Not Assigned

Filed:

July 24, 2003

Dated: September 15, 2004

For:

**VESSEL SEALING SYSTEM** 

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the U.S. references listed are not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. 1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art.

The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 15, 2004.

Dated: September 15, 2004

Edward C/Meagher

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- [] This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- [] This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- [X] To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- [] Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- [] Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
  - [] Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
  - [] Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- [] Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- [] Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

## TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward C. Meagher Reg. No. 41,189

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**Examiner** 

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		Docket Number (Optional) 2155CIP2A(203-3398C	Application Number 10/626,390				
		Applicant Wham et al.					
(Use several sheets if necessary)			Filing Date 7/24/2003	Group Art Number 3739			
		U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate	
	5,647,869	07/15/97	Goble et al.				
	2002/0035353 A1	03/21/02	Edwards et al.				
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	Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	878,169	Nov., 1998	EP				
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		OTHER I	DOCUMENTS		<del></del>		
	Chicharo et al. "A Sliding Go						
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	ELECTRONICS WORLD; R	EED BUSINESS	PUBLISHING, SUTTON	s. 400-467 I, SURRE	Y, GB vol.	99, no. 168	37
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Date Considered